OCT 1 2 2004 G

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| n Re U.S. Patent Application | | | Examiner: | Shafali D. Patel |
|------------------------------|--|----------------------|-----------|-----------------------|
| Applica | ınt: | HERSHEY, ET AL. | Art Unit: | 2621RECEIVED |
| Serial N | lo.: | 09/672,452 | | OCT 1 8 2004 |
| Filed: | | September 29, 2000) | | Technology Center 260 |
| | METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR () STEGANOGRAPHIC EMBEDDING () OF META-DATA | | • | |

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.114

Mail Stop <u>RCE</u> Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

The following Amendment and Remarks are submitted in response to the Final Office Action dated July 9, 2004. Please amend the above-identified application as follows. Applicant has requested a one-month extension of time to and including October 12, 2004, to file a response to the Final Office Action dated June 9, 2003, which carried an original response date of September 9, 2004. Applicant believes the amendments provided herein place the claims in condition for allowance.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.